

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS REACTION, OCTOBER 25

1. AL AHARAM

ONE OF FIVE BANNERHEADS REPORTED US "REFUSAL TO SEND
CEASEFIRE OBSERVATION FORCE (TO EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI FRONT)"
AND WASHINGTON CALL TO MOSCOW TO ADOPT SIMILAR STAND.
BANNERHEADS CAPPED MAIN STORY REPORTING CONTINUING FIGHT-
ING DESPITE TWO SC CEASEFIRE RESOLUTIONS AND SADAT'S
CALL FOR JOINT AMERICAN-SOVIET EMERGENCY PEACEKEEPING
FORCE "TO INSURE ISRAEL'S COMMITMENT TO CEASEFIRE."
STORY EMPHASIZED THAT US "DECISION NOT TO SEND ME
(PEACEKEEPING) FORCES" AND "REQUEST THAT OTHER COUNTRIES
FOLLOW SUIT" WAS ANNOUNCED TWO HOURS BEFORE SC MEETING
TO CONSIDER CAIRO COMPLAINT OF ISRAEL'S CEASEFIRE
"VIOLATION." STORY ALSO REPORTED ONE OF EIGHT "ISRAELI"
MIRAGES DOWNED ON EGYPTIAN FRONT WAS SOUTH AFRICAN. AL
AHAM STATED AIRCRAFT WAS PART OF 50 MIRAGE ISRAELI-
SOUTH AFRICA DEAL.

SECOND LEAD STORY REPORTED UNDER THREE-COLUMN
HEADLINES "CONTINUING U.S. ARMS RESUPPLIES UNTIL ISRAEL
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IS FULLY SATISFIED" AND "US IS COMPENSATING ISRAELI AIR
FORCE FOR EVERY LOSS." WASHINGTON UPI STORY QUOTED UN-
NAMED "US SOURCE" AS SEEING NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN
"CONTINUING US ARMS TO ISRAEL AND CONCENTRATED US DIPLO-

MATIC EFFORTS TO REINSTITUTE CEASEFIRE." DEFENSE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING US-ISRAEL AIRLIFT "CONTINUES ON AVERAGE OF TWENTY FLIGHTS DAILY," COMPARED TO 800 SOVIET FLIGHTS (SINCE BEGINNING OF WAR) TO UNLOAD 13,000 TONS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT IN EGYPT AND SYRIA.

NEW YORK WIRE SERVICE REPORT COVERED MALIK'S SC STATEMENT, "US BEARS INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN CARRYING OUT CEASEFIRE RESOLUTION" AND MOSCOW'S PROPOSAL TO "IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON ISRAEL."

SINGLE COLUMN FRONT PAGE ITEMS MENTIONED NIXON'S VIEW THAT CEASEFIRE HAS STARTED TO MATERIALIZE AND THAT NIXON-KISSINGER CURRENT EFFORTS ARE TO FOCUS ON CONFIRMING CEASEFIRE RATHER THAN STEPS THAT FOLLOW; AND KISSINGER'S THURSDAY PRESS CONFERENCE ON ME FOLLOWING "WIDE CONTACTS DURING PAST FEW DAYS."

MAIN FOREIGN PAGE STORY (AP WASHINGTON), UNDER FOUR-COLUMN HEADLINE, DEALT WITH FOUR US SENATORS' PROPOSAL FOR "RETURN OF ALL OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS TO THEIR OWNERS."

TWO-COLUMN AFP PARIS STORY SAID US HAS PAID \$6,000 MILLION SO FAR FOR ME WAR ACCORDING TO "PENTAGON EXPERTS."

ONE-COLUMN FOREIGN PAGE STORY MENTIONED FORMER US AMBASSADOR JOHN MADEAU'S STATEMENT BEFORE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SUB-COMMITTEE THAT "REALISTIC ME SETTLEMENT IS NOW MORE POSSIBLE THAN BEFORE," AND "US SHOULD EXERT PRESSURE ON ISRAEL IN ORDER TO REACH SETTLEMENT."

COLUMNIST AHMED BAH A EL-DIN REVIEWED ISRAEL'S HISTORY OF "MANIPULATION" WITH CEASEFIRE RESOLUTIONS. HE DECLARED: "CEASEFIRE RESPONSIBILITY THIS TIME DOES NOT FALL ON 15 SC MEMBERS, BUT ON TWO SUPERPOWERS WHICH ARE CAPABLE OF EXERTING ADEQUATE PRESSURE (ON ISRAEL)."

2. AL AKHBAR

TWO OF SEVEN BANNERHEADS READ: "SADAT REQUESTS NIXON AND BREZHNEV TO SEND AMERICAN-SOVIET FORCES IMMEDIATELY TO SUPERVISE CEASEFIRE IMPLEMENTATION. EGYPTIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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REQUEST IS BASED ON SOVIET-AMERICAN RESPONSIBILITY TO GUARANTEE SC RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTATION."

SECOND LEAD STORY REPORTED CONTINUING SC SESSION "UNTIL ISRAEL STOPS SHOOTING."

THREE-COLUMN WASHINGTON WIRE SERVICE STORY QUOTED "US OFFICIAL'S STATEMENT" THAT "US ARMS WILL CONTINUE TO BE SENT TO ISRAEL UNTIL IT HAS ENOUGH."

FRONT PAGE COLUMNIST MOUSSA SABRI RESPONDED TO THOSE IN EGYPTIAN PUBLIC AGAINST CEASEFIRE SAYING "IF ORDINARY CITIZENS ARE AWARE THAT ISRAEL WILL TRY TO EXPLOIT CEASEFIRE, I THINK THE MILITARY-POLITICAL COMMAND IS ALSO AWARE OF THIS OBVIOUS MATTER."

COLUMNIST ABDEL-SALAM DAUD CONTRASTED \$2,000 MILLION CONGRESSIONAL ARMS APPROPRIATION FOR ISRAEL WITH RECENT DRAFT PEACE PROPOSAL DRAFTED BY SOME MEMBERS OF US SENATE CALLING FOR ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL TO PRE-JUNE 1967 BORDERS AND SETTling PALESTINIAN QUESTION.

COLUMNIST ANIS MANSOUR IMploRED EGYPTIANS NOT TO LET ISRAELI "INFILTRATION" WEST OF CANAL OBSCURE EGYPT'S BRILLIANT MILITARY FEATS BEGINNING ON OCTOBER 6.

3. AL GOMHOURIYA

FIRST FIVE BANNERHEADS UNDERSCORED SADAT'S CALL FOR IMMEDIATE SC MEETING AND SOVIET-AMERICAN FORCES TO SUPERVISE CEASEFIRE IMPLEMENTATION. THREE-COLUMN STORY CONTAINED DETAILS OF SADAT'S REQUEST FOR PEACEKEEPING FORCES.

BRIEF SINGLE-COLUMN FRONTPAGE ITEMS REPORTED: SYRIA'S CEASEFIRE ACCEPTANCE ON CONDITION OF FULL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL; CONTINUING US ARMS SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL "UNTIL IT FEELS IT HAS ENOUGH;" US REFUSAL TO DISPATCH PEACEKEEPING FORCES; AND MALIK'S STATEMENT THAT US "HAS INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING SC RESOLUTIONS."

FRONT PAGE COLUMNIST MOSTAFA BAHGAT BADAWI, REGARDING CEASEFIRE AND "VARYING FEELINGS TOWARD IT," STATED THAT BY OCTOBER 6 CANAL CROSSING INTO SINAI, EGYPTIANS "HAVE OVERCOME PHASE OF SHAME CAUSED BY 1967 DEFEAT."

WAHID GHAZI, IN LONG FEATURE, ARGUES THAT CEASEFIRE DID NOT CRIPPLE EGYPTIAN WAR PLAN THAT BEGAN WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CANAL CROSSING. MORALE BOOSTING PHOTOS OF BAR LEV LINE, ISRAELI WAR PRISONER AND DESTROYED ISRAELI TANKS ACCOMPANIED STORY.

MOHAMED ABUL-HADID DEBATED THAT ARAB OIL HALF HAS CAUSED "CONCERN" TO US WHICH NOW "FACES ACTUAL ENERGY CRISIS."

LOCAL PAGE INCLUDED BRIEF ITEMS ON NIXON'S WAR POWER BILL VETO; ISRAEL'S FULL SATISFACTION WITH US STAND AND PLEDGE BY EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER DISTRIBUTORS TO BOYCOTT US PRESS PUBLICATIONS.

4. COMMENT

GOE GUIDANCE TO PRESS TODAY SEEMED TO BE TO CALM THE FEELINGS OF DISCOURAGEMENT AND SKEPTICISM AMONG GENERAL READING PUBLIC REGARDING THE INVINCIBILITY OF THE EGYPTIAN ARMY AND THE WISDOM OF ACCEPTING A CEASEFIRE. CONSIDERABLE SPACE IN NEWS AND EDITORIAL COLUMNS WAS DEVOTED TO DEFENDING SADAT'S CEASEFIRE DECISION AND EMPHASIZING STRATEGIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EGYPTIAN ARMY'S OCTOBER 6 VICTORY

IN RELATION TO RECENT ISRAELI "INFILTRATION" WEST OF CANAL.

PAPERS ASSURED READERS THAT (A) CEASEFIRE CONDITIONS ARE SAME AS SADAT SET FORTH IN HIS OCTOBER 16 ADDRESS; (B) ISRAELI "INCURSIONS" WEST OF CANAL AND AT SUEZ CITY ARE PSYCHOLOGICAL MANEUVERS RATHER THAN STRATEGICALLY SIGNIFICANT. ISRAELIS WISH TO SHAKE SENSE OF VICTORY EGYPT ACHIEVED ON OCTOBER 6; AND (C) SUPER-POWERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING CEASEFIRE AND PEACE TALKS WORK.

NEWSPAPERS CONTRIBUTED TO SLOW INCREASE IN DOUBTS ABOUT GOOD FAITH OF US REGARDING CEASEFIRE AND SC RESOLUTION. LEAD COVERAGE WAS GIVEN TO US REFUSAL TO SEND PEACEKEEPING FORCES TO EGYPT/ISRAEL CEASEFIRE LINE AND PROMINENT COVERAGE WAS GIVEN US DEPT. DEFENSE SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT REGARDING CONTINUING US MILITARY RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL.

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